

**From:** Richard Mallamo  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/10/01 9:54am  
**Subject:** MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

Dear DOJ:

As a Microsoft customer for over 15 years, and as a member of that constituency little mentioned in discussions of the Microsoft Settlement -- the computer-using public -- let me state in no uncertain terms that the proposed settlement is not a punishment, it's a REWARD!

I will not take up your time with a lengthy discussion of all the points against this settlement (which seems to have been written by Microsoft's lawyers) as I'm sure you will be inundated with detailed analyses by some very learned people. Suffice to say that this so-called remedy does nothing to insure that I, the customer, will over the coming years be able to purchase good, reasonably priced (or even free) alternatives to Microsoft products -- or even better Microsoft products. Rather, I will be subject to more insults like the new license activation scheme, with its potential theft of my purchase by Microsoft (as you are doubtless starting to learn). In its details, the settlement only enhances Microsoft's monopoly.

Microsoft is a criminal entity. Indeed, they are a recidivist criminal entity. Criminals are supposed to be punished ... or at least rehabilitated. Instead, your remedy punished the Linux community, Sun, Apple, and just about every other competitor, while offering numerous opportunities for Microsoft to consolidate even more monopoly power. This is insanity and an insult to the rule of law.

I urge you to do the right thing for the citizens of the United States and re-consider your course of action. Thank you.

Yours,

Richard P. Mallamo